

SCIENCE ON SATURDAY 2008

# ENERGY:

## *The Role of Science and Technology*

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cmls



# Today's Discussion

**What is energy?**

**How much energy do we have?**

**Will we run out?**

**Does energy impact the  
environment?**



**What is Energy?**

# **ENERGY**

## **Quick Overview**

**Energy**  
is a fundamental quantity in our universe

**Energy**  
cannot be created or destroyed—  
only converted

**What is Energy?**  
*“the ability to do work”*



# Different Forms of Energy

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**Nuclear**

Uranium, Thorium

**Kinetic**

Tides, Cars

**Radiation  
(light)**

Sunlight, Microwaves

**Pressure**

Wind, Hydraulics

**Electricity**

Lightning, Wall Outlet

**Magnetic**

Earth's Magnetic Field

**Chemical**

Biomass, Gasoline

**Potential**

Mountain Snowpack

**Sensible**

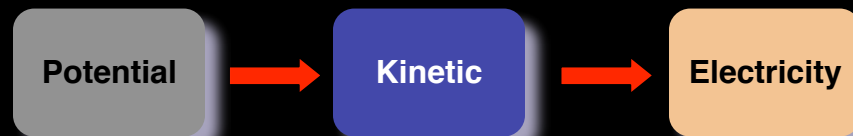
Lava, Combustion Gases

# We convert these forms to meet our needs

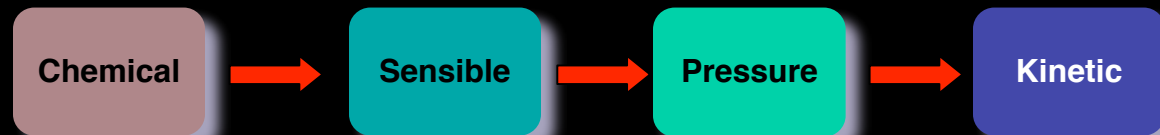
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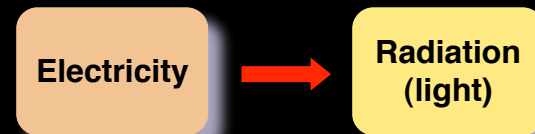
## Hydro-electric



## Internal Combustion Engine



## Lighting





**How Do We  
Count Energy?**

# Counting Energy:

## Based on Scientific Measurements

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QUANTITY	ENGLISH UNIT	METRIC UNIT
Mass	Pound-Mass (lb-m)	gram (g)
Length	foot (ft), mile (mi)	meter (m)
Time	second (s)	second (s)



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Acceleration = $\Delta$ Speed/Time	ft/s <sup>2</sup>	m/s <sup>2</sup>
Force = Mass * Acceleration	Pound-Weight (lbf or lb)	Newton (N)

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*You need science to understand energy*

# Common forms of energy and how they are measured

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Form	Common Name	Unit
 Biomass	Food	Calories
 Chemical	Heating, cooking, and industrial uses	Joules or BTUs
 Electricity	Electricity (lighting, appliances, refrigeration, heating)	Kilowatt-hours (kWh)
 Kinetic	Transportation (people and goods)	Gallons (gasoline), Barrels (oil)



# Adding It Up

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Form

Common Name

Unit



Biomass

Food (**for one person**)

Calories  
**~2,500 kcal/day**



Chemical

Heating, cooking, and industrial  
uses (**average U.S. home**)

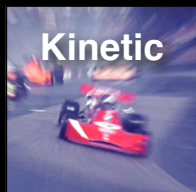
Joules or BTUs  
**~125,000 BTU/day**



Electricity

Electricity (**average U.S. home**)

Kilowatt-hours (kWh)  
**~25 kWh/day**



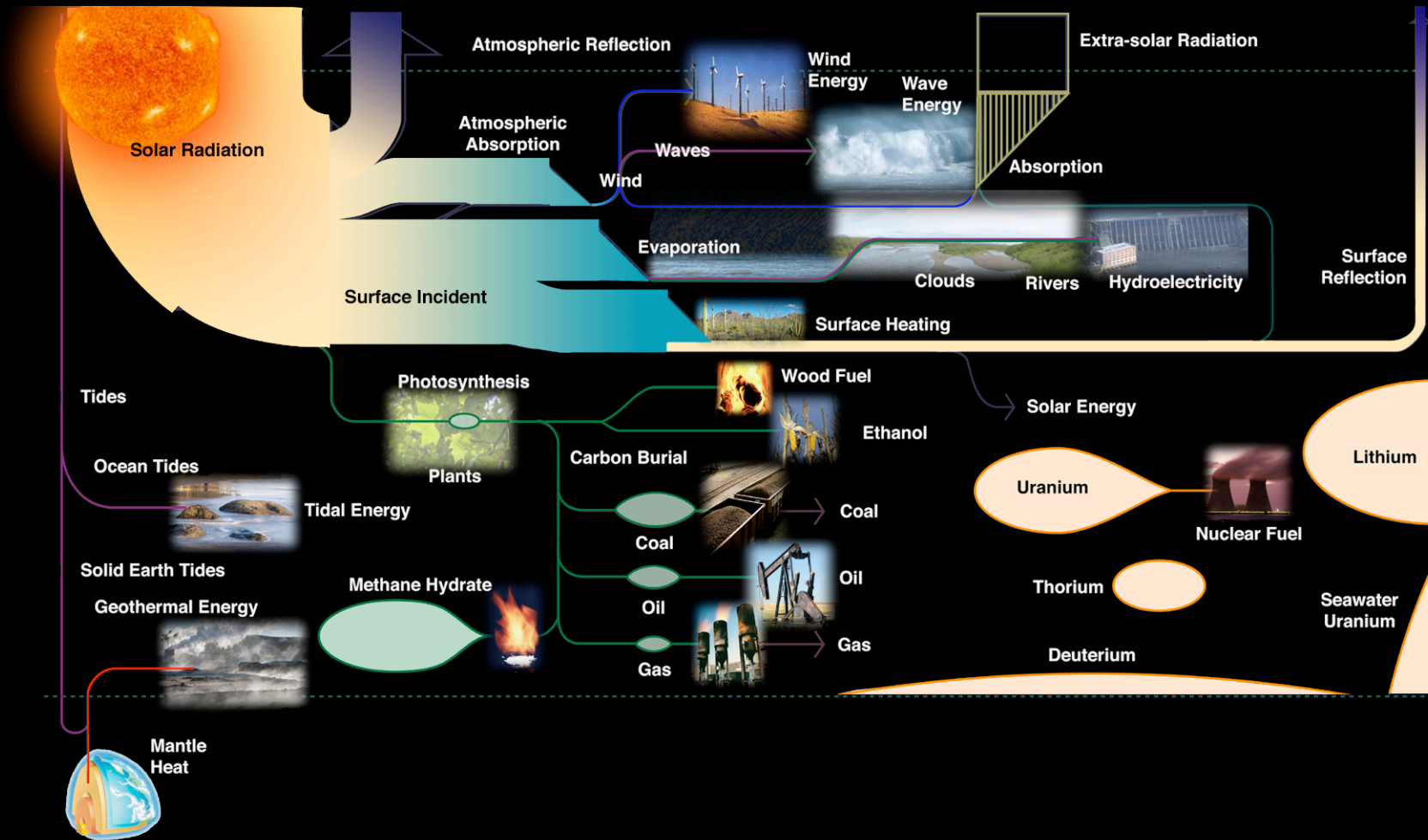
Kinetic

Transportation (**12,000 miles/yr**)

Gallons (gasoline)  
**~1.5 gallons/day**

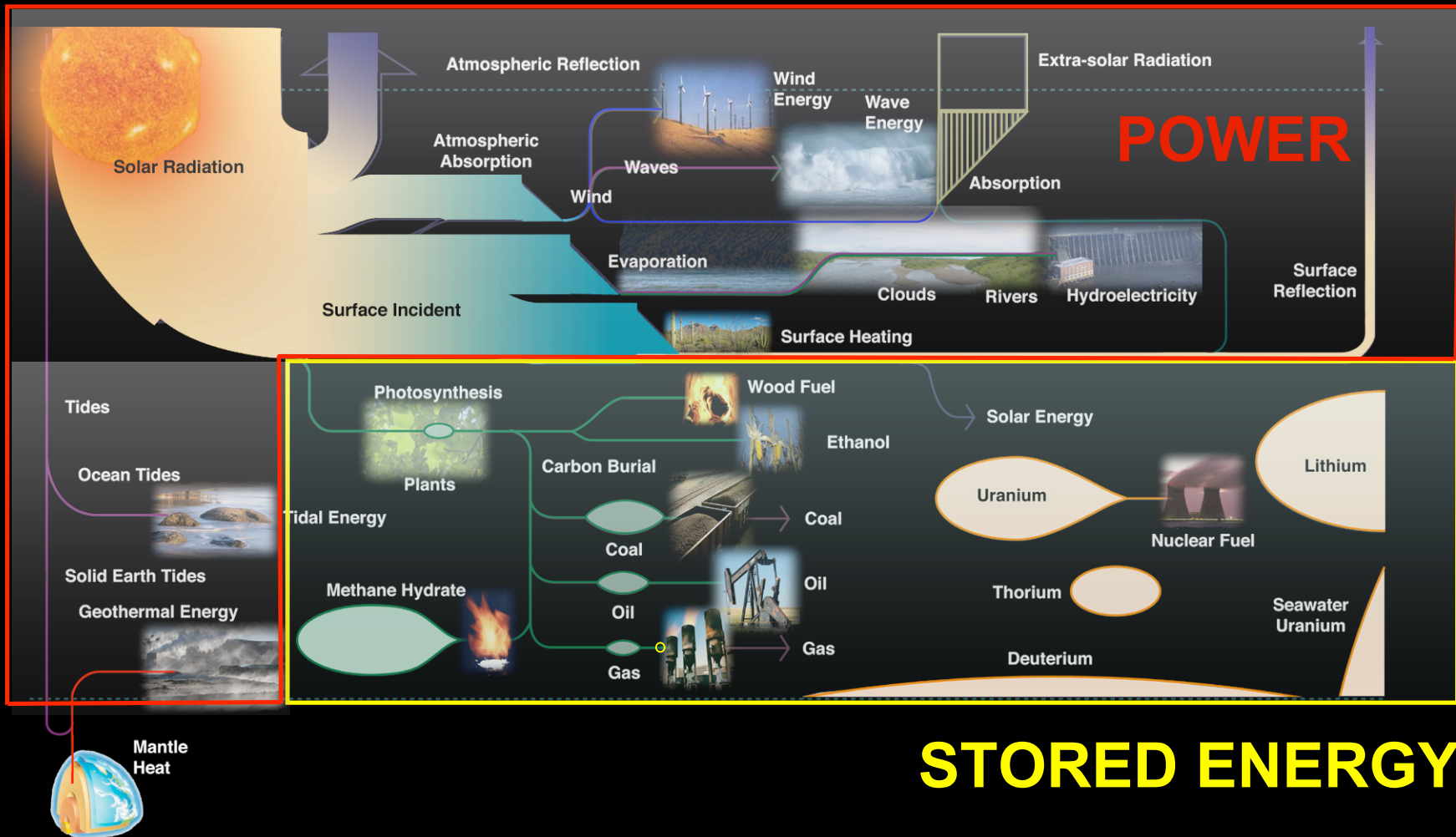
**How Much Energy  
Do We Have?**

# Global energy resources: Power (in TW) and Energy (in ZJ) are drawn to scale

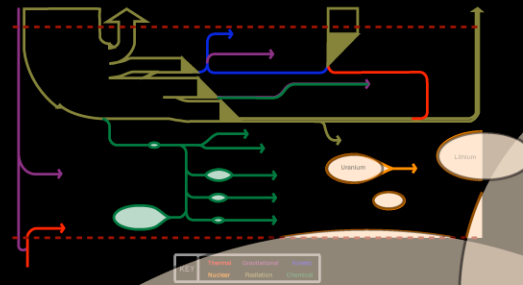


From Wes Hermann, GCEP, 2005

# Global energy resources: Power (in TW) and Energy (in ZJ) are drawn to scale



From Wes Hermann, GCEP, 2005



**Fission  
Energy**

**Fusion Energy**

**Will We Run Out?**

**World Oil Is ~19 Trillion Barrels**

**World Has Used 1 Trillion Barrels**

**Total oil ~110 ZJ**



**Recoverable oil: 1 or 2 Trillion barrels**

**Including oil “left behind”: ~10 Tbbbls left**



**Show Energy Map**

**Does Energy Impact  
The Environment?**

**2500+ SCIENTIFIC EXPERT REVIEWERS**  
**800+ CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS AND**  
**450+ LEAD AUTHORS FROM**  
**130+ COUNTRIES**  
**6 YEARS WORK**  
**1 REPORT**

**2007**

The IPCC 4th Assessment Report is coming out  
**A picture of climate change**  
the current state of understanding



INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE



**Most scientists now agree that global climate change is real**

**And that man's energy use is the main cause**

**Problem: burning fossil fuels**

# **What About The Rest of the World?**

## **India and China**

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### **China:**

**Most populous nation (1.3 billion people)**

**Per-Person Energy Use is  $\sim 1/6^{\text{th}}$  of U.S.**

### **India:**

**Second most populous nation (1.1 billion people)**

**Per-Person Energy Use is  $\sim 1/16^{\text{th}}$  of U.S.**

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*Hypothetical Situation: If population holds constant, and only India and China reach the same per-person energy needs as the U.S....*

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*Hypothetical Situation: If population holds constant, and only India and China reach the same per-person energy needs as the U.S....*

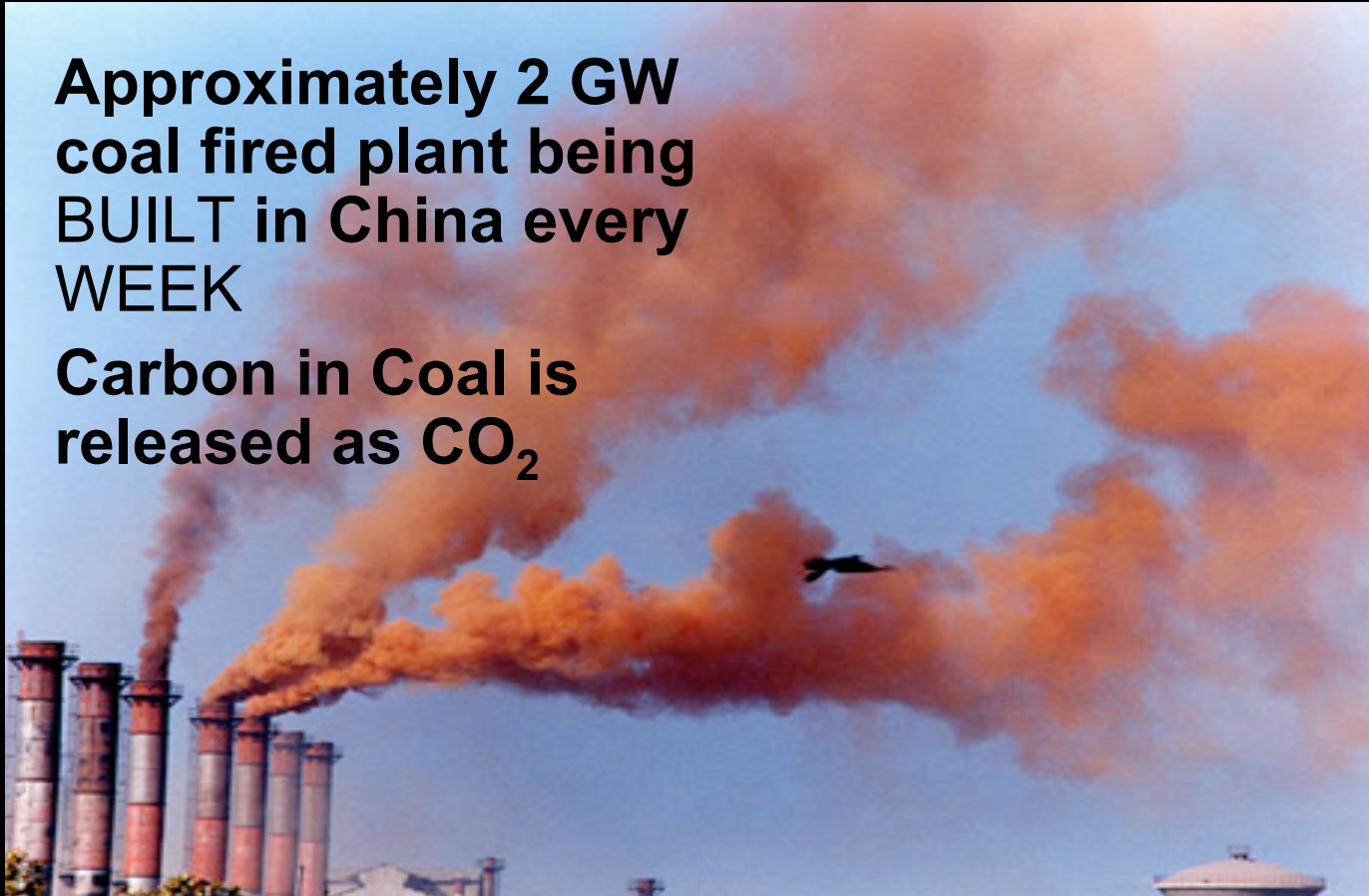
*i) World Energy Demand will be 2.5x higher than today*

*ii) We add one and a half planet's worth of emissions*

# China and India will influence greenhouse emissions

Approximately 2 GW  
coal fired plant being  
BUILT in China every  
WEEK

Carbon in Coal is  
released as CO<sub>2</sub>



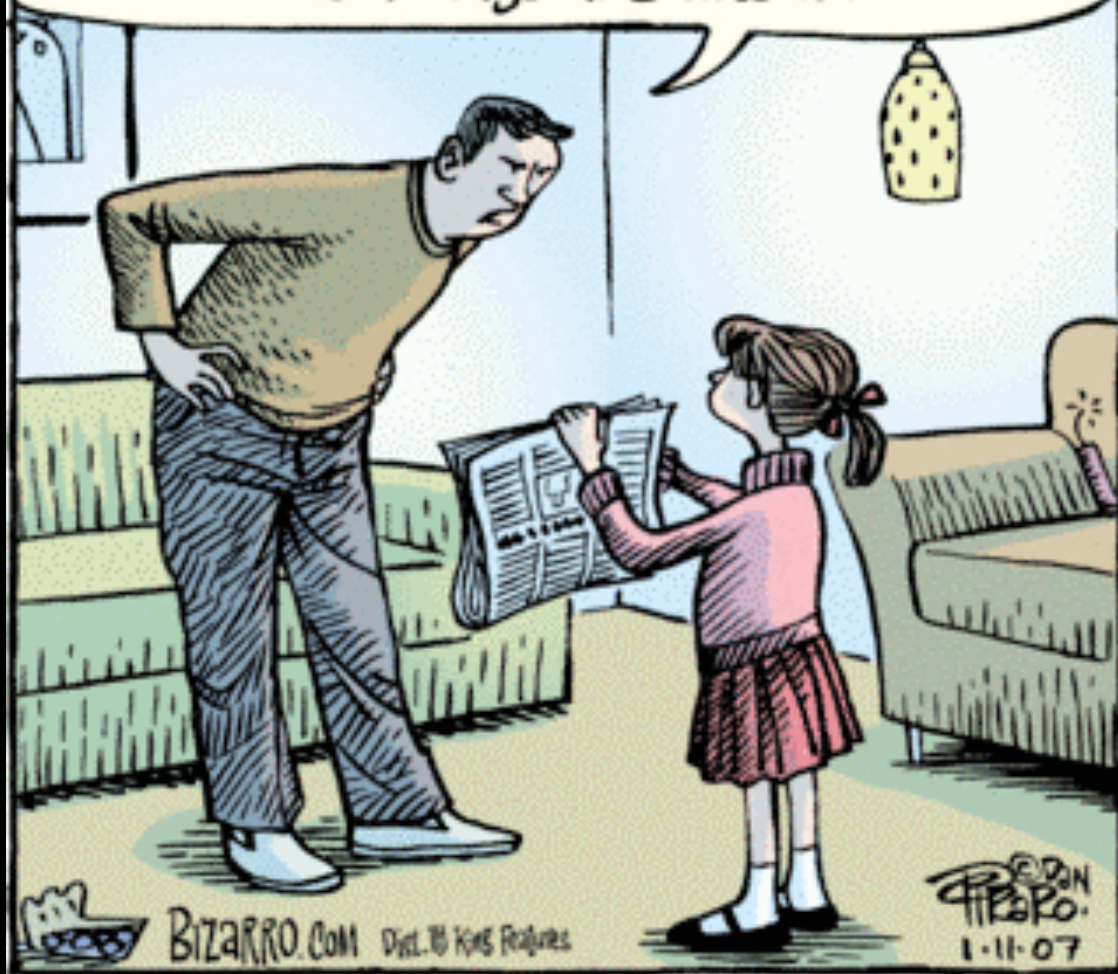
*from The Economist*



**Is There An  
Energy Crisis?**

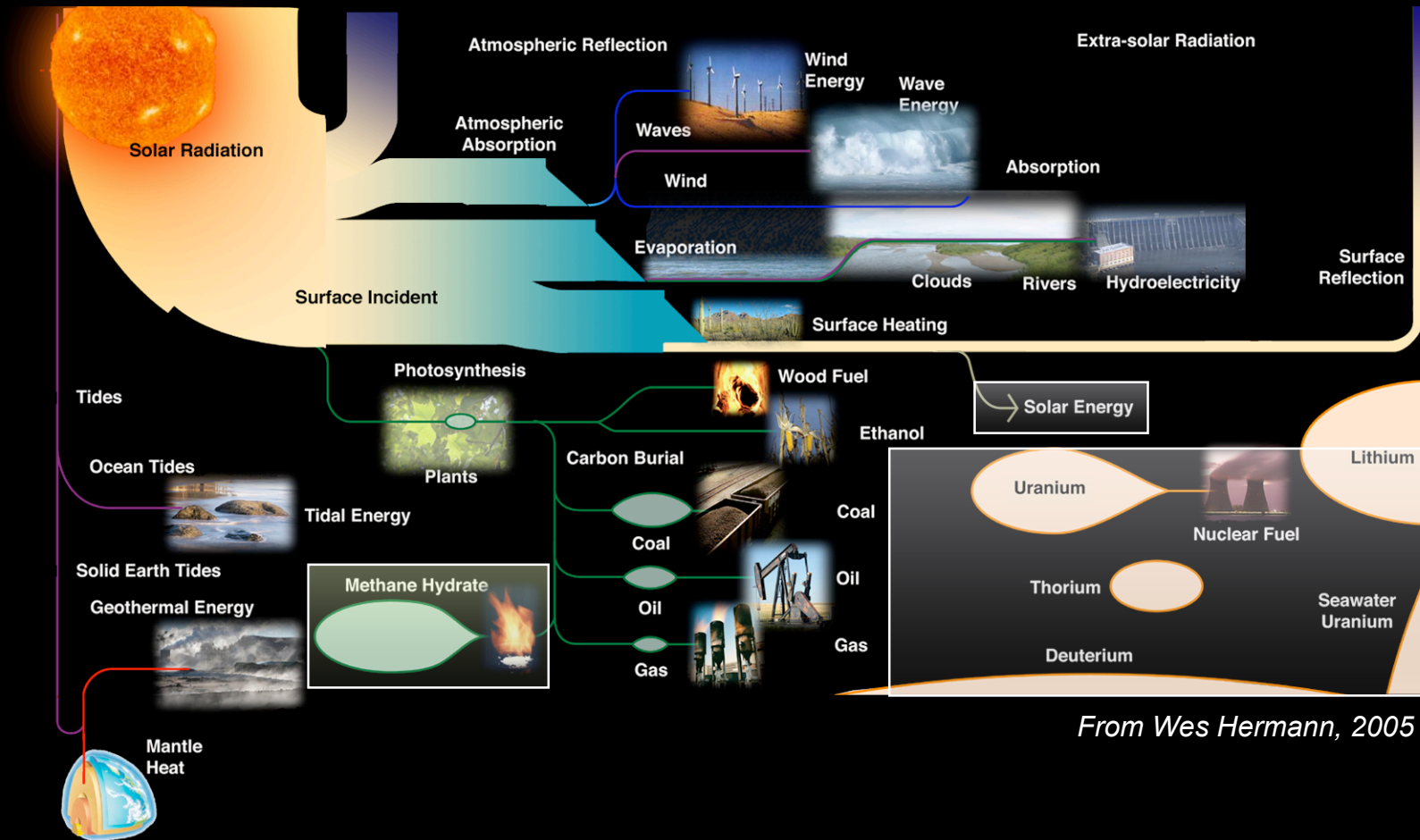
**What do you think?**

How about you spend LESS time studying how MY generation destroyed the environment and MORE time figuring out a magical solution?



# **The Role of Technology**

# What can we do?



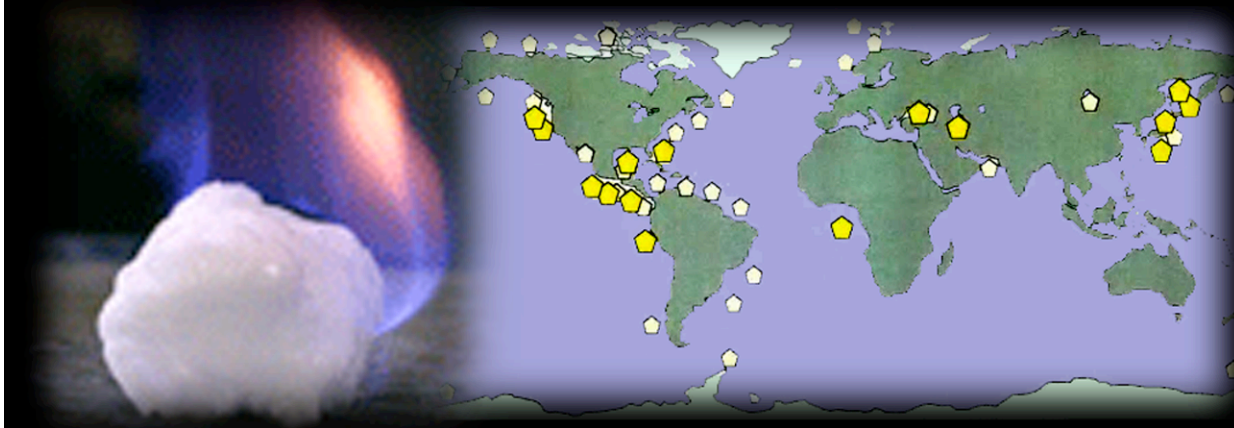
From Wes Hermann, 2005

Three options: find more fossil fuels, harness renewables, and more nuclear energy

# Get More Fossil Fuels (for now)



**“Oil Shale”**  
**U.S. has 90%**  
**1.6 trillion barrels**

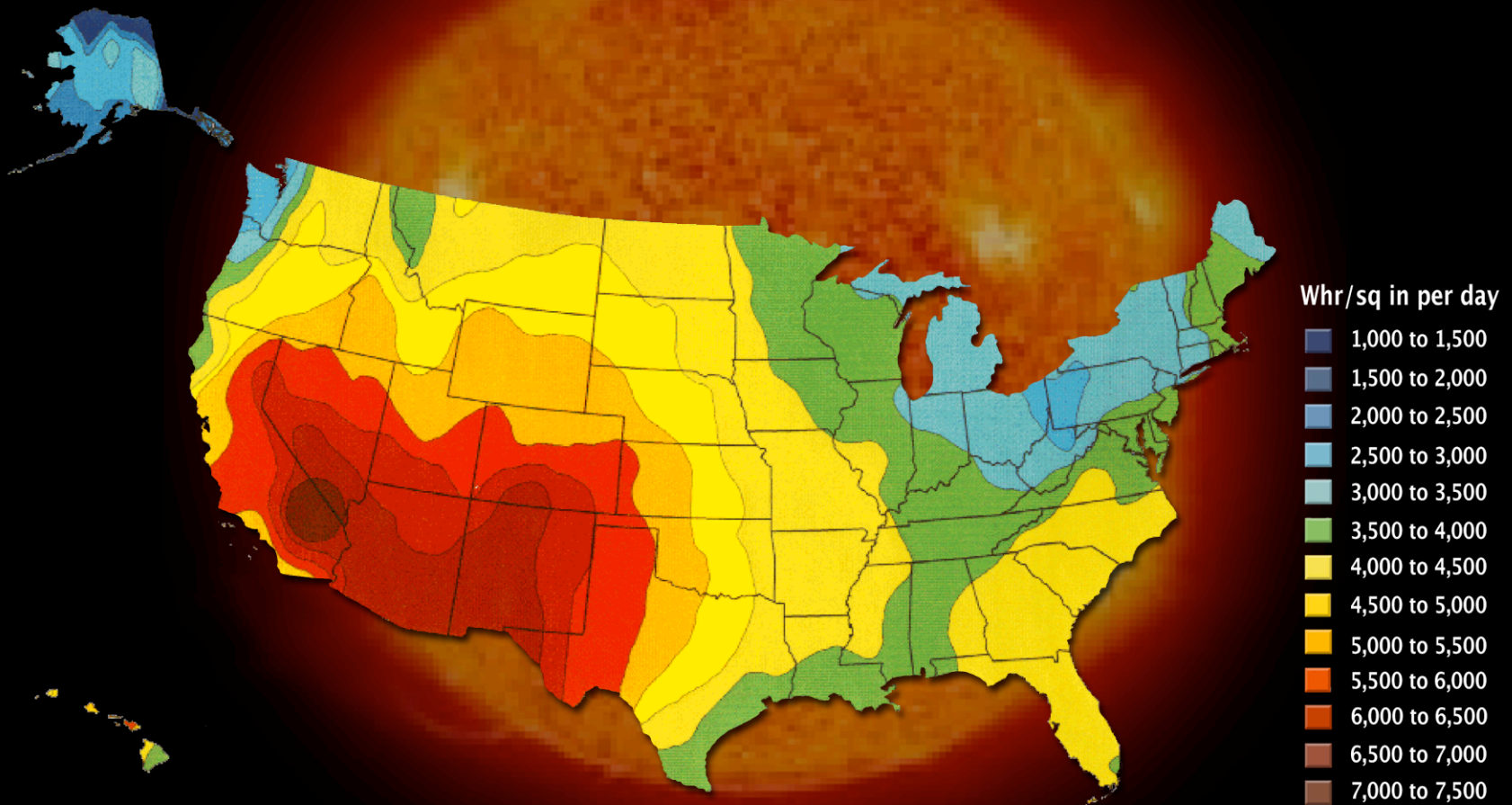


**Methane hydrates**  
**(Twice all other**  
**fossil fuels)**



# Use More Renewables

Low-cost solar, more wind, geothermal and efficient biofuels

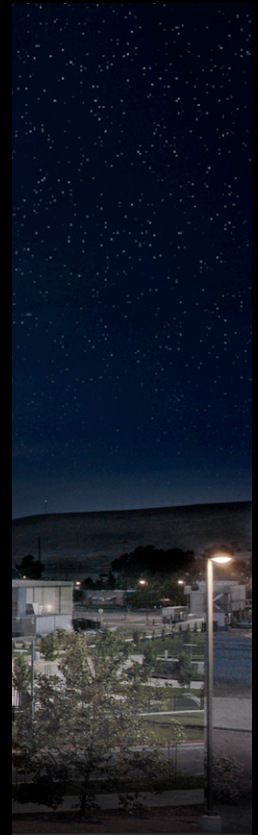
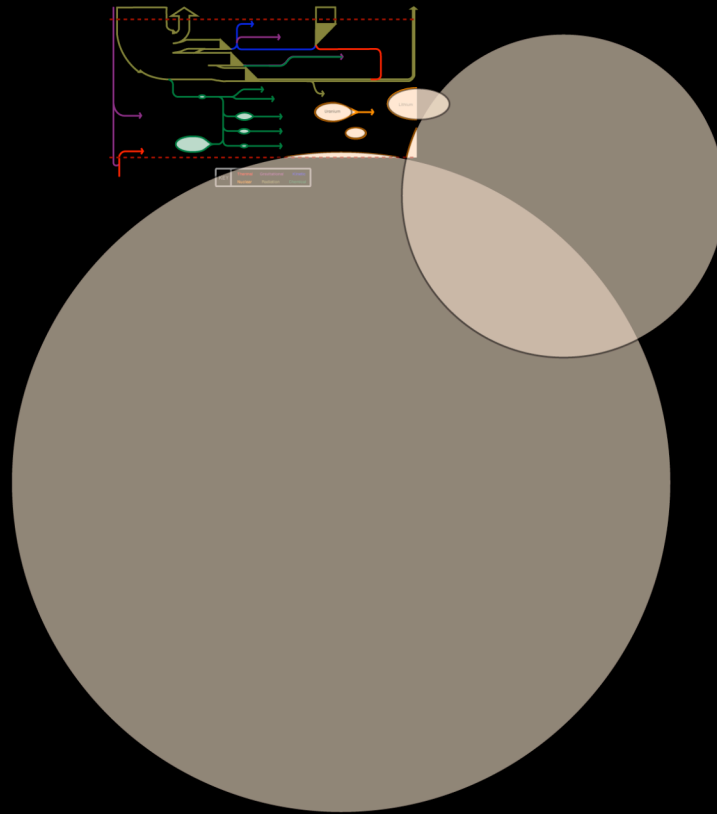


# Energy from Windmills floating in the sky (sending electricity 20,000 feet down)





# Fusion: a sun on the earth



*Unlimited energy from water!*

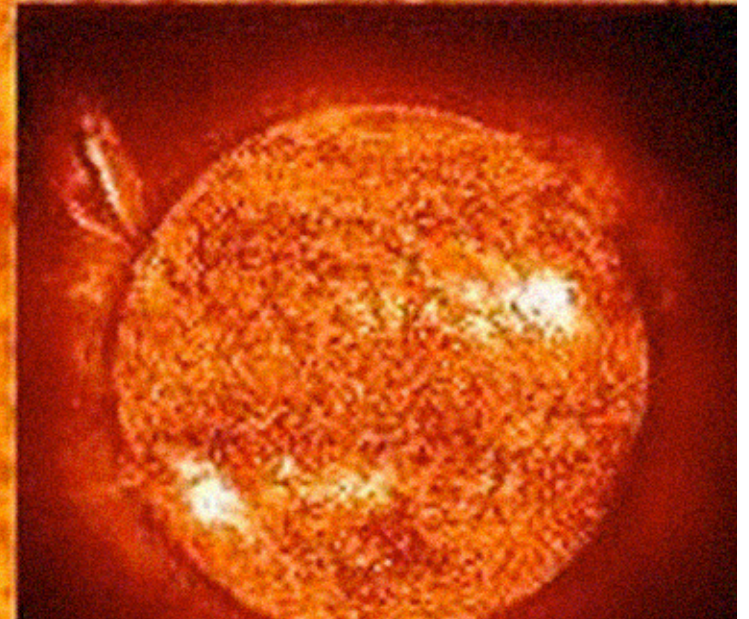
**What did we learn?**

**You need science to  
understand energy  
and its different forms**

**We use energy in many  
ways, every day**



**The sun sends us huge  
amounts of energy...  
we just don't harness it!**

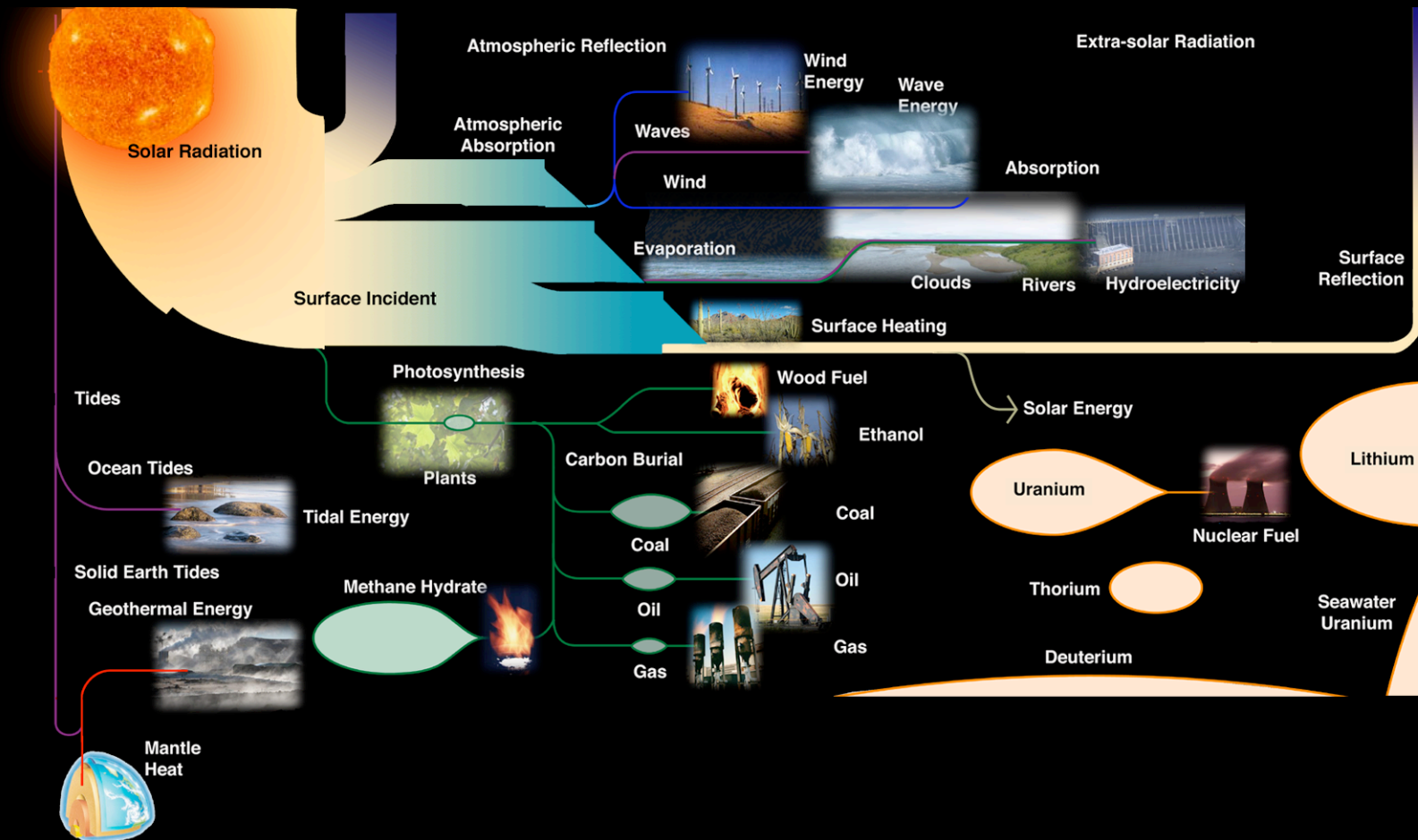






**Today, most of the  
energy we use is  
from fossil fuels**

# Our future will depend on many technologies and resources





**The Future:  
We need new ideas  
for harnessing  
nuclear and solar power**



***The challenge is yours!***